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54 **Improvements in and relating to apparatus for measuring blood pressure.**

57 An apparatus for measuring blood pressure comprises: an inflatable cuff (22, 69) and pulse sensing means (32, 70) for fixing to a digit such as, for example, a finger or toe; electrical control circuit means (85) for converting a sensed pulse into a visual or audible indication; pneumatic means (31) for transmitting the sensed pulse to the converting means (40, 31); and means (12, 90) for measuring the pressure exerted in the cuff. The arrangement is such that

with the cuff in an operative position on the body, progressive inflation/deflation of the cuff is effected until pulse sensing means detect the presence of the pulse thus providing an indication of the systolic blood pressure.

A variable capacitor (40) is pneumatically coupled to the pulse sensor (32, 70) so that changes in the pneumatic system result in changes in capacitance to determine the pulse within the pneumatic system.

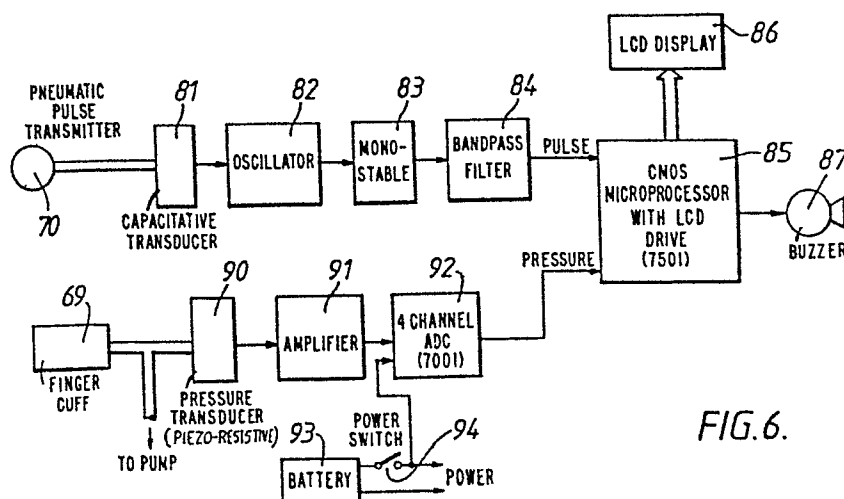


FIG. 6.



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 4)
X	US-A-2 989 051 (G.D. ZUIDEMA et al.) * Column 2, line 62 - column 4, line 32; column 4, line 67 - column 5, line 5; figures 1,3 *	1,2,4-9	A 61 B 5/02
D,A	GB-A-1 604 251 (NATIONAL RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT CORP.) * Page 2, lines 32-48; claim 1; figure *	5	
A	US-A-2 452 799 (D.M. SPEAKER et al.) * Column 1, line 49 - column 3, line 11; figure 1 *	2,7,10	
A	US-A-4 484 584 (M. UEMURA) * Abstract; column 4, line 60 - column 5, line 4; figures 2,8 *	8	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl. 4)
A	US-A-4 321 929 (J.H. LEMELSON et al.) * Abstract; column 3, lines 37-42; figures 1,2 *	9	A 61 B
A	US-A-4 331 155 (A.H. SACKS) * Abstract; column 6, lines 30-48; figures 1-5 *	1-4	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 23-07-1987	Examiner HUNT, B.W.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			